Hello First Grade Families!

Even though we had a short week, there was plenty of learning that was done! Playing games is a learning activity that teaches students how to be a community in the classroom. Spelling lessons teach students sight words and handwriting skills. Scholastic news teaches students how to read magazines, answer multiple questions, look for similar spelling, and how to be a scientist and a community member. So, even in 3 short days, your student learned so much! I was actually thinking about when they first came into the first grade, and then comparing that time to now. I was blown away by how much they have already grown academically (and in height)!

In ELA this week, your student has been working really hard on writing down the beginning, middle, and end, as well as the details of their stories for their puppet show. We were also able to have an Art class on Thursday that focused on making their puppets and backgrounds! Next week you will be getting a letter from me inviting you to come into our classroom to see your students’ puppet show. Students also had their first spelling test, and students also worked on chunking out words into the onset and rime. For example, they would have a picture of a cat. They would say c-at, cat. This is teaching them to hear the beginning sound, as well as hear the vowel and the sounds that come with the vowel. Students really built their stamina on Read to Someone. We managed to get to 10 minutes!

In Math, students were reintroduced to the concept of subtraction. We had a Math Theater, looked at pictures, and took a little math pre-test so that I could see their understanding of math vocabulary. Students also played some really fun math games such as 4 corners and Memory Match. I am including those games in your students Take-Home Folder this week, just in case you want to play them with your student!

In Social Studies, we worked on being a community and celebrating our learning by writing down what we actually learned this week. I think it is important for students to review on their week and think about what they learned and what skills they gained. We also did some more Veterans work. Next week, we will start our writing Thank You letters to Veterans!

Overall, this week has been phenomenal. Granted it was only 3 days, your student came back on Wednesday ready to learn. As I tell them often, they made my heart very happy this week. I look forward to next week with them. Expect a letter next week from me inviting you to come visit our class!

Have a safe and happy weekend.

Ms. LaCasse

**Parent Reminders:**

* Scholastic News is due on 11/26/14
* Early Dismissal on 11/26/14
* No School 11/27 to 11/28
* Check out our website for homework, worksheets, videos, songs, and more: <http://gesgrade1.weebly.com/>

**Classroom Needs:**

* Clorox Wipes or a generic brand is fine!
* Gallon Sized Baggies – for games
* Sandwich Baggies – for games